

International Relations 4701 Afghanistan and Central Asia

Instructor Information:

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Office Hours (Term 2): 2-3pm or by
appointment

Class Information:

Wednesdays, 1:30-3:30pm, WL 259 (The D.B. Weldon Library)

Course Description:

This year IR 4701 will return to the challenge presented to the International community by Afghanistan. The course will attempt to cite Afghanistan within Central Asia, a system of states sharing similar and interconnected problems, many of which cannot be solved within the borders of any single state.

In the Autumn Term, the course will focus on providing students with an accentuated awareness of the current situation in the region. In the Spring Term, students will work to identify possible future solutions, realisable within the timeframe 2012-2022. The course will culminate with each student producing a major paper addressed to the theme 'how do we win in Afghanistan'.

Course objectives include:

- Gain a broader understanding of problematic issues and development challenges in Afghanistan and in Central Asia more broadly.
- Understand that solutions, if available, will almost certainly require regional cooperation.
- Understand that segmental solutions may produce significant impacts in other sectors.
- Appreciate the problem presented by second order effects.
- Expose students to some of the more important debates.
- Introduce students to campaign planning, and operational design.
- Practice students in the use of primary documents, both in discussion and as research.

- Hone presentation skills.
- Conduct a significant research project, including consideration of primary materials as available.

Grading:

Participation:	20%
Presentation:	20%
Research Paper:	40%
Exam:	20%

Description of Graded Items

Participation is an assessment of how effectively a student has participated in class discussions.

Presentation: each student will assist in the preparation and presentation of a campaign plan as part of a group. Marks assigned will reflect the quality of the presentation generally, but will also contain a 'peer assessment' component. The aggregate grade will be constituted in equal measures of a grade assigned by the instructor and a grade assigned by peers. A fuller description of this requirement will be provided separately.

Research Paper: each student will produce a research paper of approximately 30 pages on the theme 'how do we win in Afghanistan'. A fuller description of this requirement will be provided separately. The Research Paper is due on the last day of classes, 11 April 2012.

Exam: First term. Three hours. Short answer and essay format.

Texts:

- Paul Collier, *Wars, Guns and Votes: Democracy in Dangerous Places* (New York: Harper 2010). ISBN-10: 9780061479649
- Ehsan Entezar, *Afghanistan 101* (New York: XLibris, 2010). ISBN-10: 1425792820
- Ahmed Rashid, *Descent into Chaos: the US and the Disaster in Pakistan, Afghanistan and Central Asia* (New York: Penguin, 2009). ISBN-10: 014311557X
- Ashraf Ghani and Clare Lockhart, *Fixing Failed States: A Framework For Rebuilding a Fractured World* (New York: Oxford U.P., 2009). ISBN-10: 0195342690
- Oliver Roy, *The New Central Asia: Geopolitics and the Birth of Nations* (New York: NYU Press, 2007). ISBN-10: 9780814776094
- RAND Corporation, *The Beginner's Guide to Nation Building* (available for free download through RAND website)

Other readings are indicated in the course outline. In all cases these will be either distributed, or are available electronically. Further guidance regarding treatment of readings will be forthcoming.

Course Outline with Reading Schedule

Sep 8 – Course introduction and Regional Overview

Sep 15 – Historical Overview & Orientation

Relevant Readings:

- Library of Congress -- Federal Research Bureau, Country Profile Afghanistan (May 2006).
- *Independent Panel on Canada's Future Role in Afghanistan* (2008).
- RAND, *Afghanistan: State and Society, Great Power Politics, and the Way Ahead* (2007).
- Fuller, *Islamic Fundamentalism in Afghanistan. Its Character and Prospects*, RAND (1991).
- UNSC, 'The situation in Afghanistan and its Implications for International Peace and Security' (2010).

Sep 22 – Connections -- Regional

Relevant Readings:

- ICG, 'Pakistan: the Militant Jihadi Challenge' (2009).
- ICG, 'Central Asia: Decay and Decline', Asia Report No. 201 (2011).
- ICG, 'Tajikistan: the Changing Insurgent Threat', Asia Report No. 205 (2011).
- RAND, *Central Asia and its Neighbours: Security and Commerce at the Crossroads* (2006).
- RAND, 'Iran's Balancing Act in Afghanistan' (2011).

Oct 6 – Connections – Outside Central Asia

Discuss Rashid, *Descent into Chaos*

Oct 13 – State-building Theory

Discuss Ghani and Lockhart, *Fixing Failed States*, Introduction, Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9.

Oct 20 – Critical Reflections on State-Building Practice: Afghanistan

Readings:

- Astri Suhrke, "Reconstruction as Modernization: The 'Post-Conflict' Project in Afghanistan," *Third World Quarterly* 28(7), 2007: pp. 2191-1308.
- Jake Sherman, "The Afghan National Development Strategy: The Right Plan at the Wrong Time?" *Journal of Security Sector Management* 7(1), February 2009: 1-9.
- Roger Mac Ginty, "Warlords and the liberal peace: state-building in Afghanistan," *Conflict, Security & Development* 10(4), 2010: pp. 577-598
- Adam Grissom, 'Making it Up as We Go Along: State-Building, Critical Theory and Military Adaptation in Afghanistan', *Conflict, Security & Development* 10(4), 2010: 493-517

- Roland Paris, "Saving Liberal Peacebuilding," *Review of International Studies* 36(2), 2010: pp. 337-365.

Supplementary Readings:

- Frederik Ferdinand Rosén, "No Words will Deliver Anything: Coaching and Mentoring as Neoliberal Governance Strategy in the Afghan State Administration," *Journal of Intervention and Statebuilding*, 5(2), 2011: 151-173.
- Stein Sundstøl Eriksen, "'State Failure' in Theory and Practice: the Idea of the State and the Contradictions of State Formation," *Review of International Studies* 37(1), 2011: 229–247.
- Jonathan Di John, "The Concept, Causes and Consequences of Failed States: A Critical Review of the Literature and Agenda for Research with Specific Reference to Sub-Saharan Africa," *European Journal of Development Research* 22(1), 2010: 10-30.
- Matts Berdal, "Building Peace After War," *The Adepti Papers* 49(407), 2009.
- Charles T. Call, "Building States to Build Peace? A Critical Analysis" *Journal of Peacebuilding and Development* 4(2), 2008: 60-74.
- Charles T. Call, "Knowing Peace When You See It: Setting Standards for Peacebuilding Success," *Civil Wars*, 10(2), 173 -194.
- Stephen D Krasner, Joseph S Nye Jr, Janice Gross Stein & Robert O Keohane, "Autobiographical reflections on bridging the policy–academy divide," *Cambridge Review of International Affairs*, 22(1), 2009: 111-128.
- Charles T. Call with Vanesa Wyeth eds., *Building States To Build Peace* (Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2008).
- Charles T. Call and Elizabeth M. Cousens, *Ending Wars and Building Peace, Working Paper*, Washington D.C.: International Peace Academy, 2007.
- Robert I. Rotberg, ed., *When States Fail* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton U.P., 2004).
- Roland Paris, *At War's End: Building Peace After Civil Conflict* (New York: Cambridge U.P., 2004).

Oct 27 – Security I: the Army

Read: *The Beginner's Guide*, Chapters 1 & 2.

Relevant Readings:

- *Afghan Insurgent Tactics Techniques and Procedures Field Guide* (2009).
- Institute for the Study of War and Peace, *The Taliban's Campaign for Kandahar* (2009).
- 'Factionalism in the ANA', (2010).
- ICG, 'A Force in Fragments' (2010).
- DoD, 'Report on Progress Toward Security and Stability in Afghanistan' (2011).
- RAND, 'Transitioning to Afghan Led Counter-Insurgency' (2011).

Nov 3 – Security II: the Police

Read: *The Beginner's Guide*, Chapter 3 & 4

Relevant Readings:

- Canadem, *The Darkest Hour Before the Dawn? A Case Study of the Status of Women in the Afghan National Police* (2009).
- ICG, 'Reforming Afghanistan's Broken Judiciary' (2010).
- Will Clegg, 'Irregular Forces in Counter-Insurgency', *Security Challenges*, Vol. V, No. 3 Spring 2009).

Nov 10 – Governance

Discuss Collier, *War, Guns and Vote*.

Read: *The Beginner's Guide*, Chapters 6.

Relevant Readings:

- ICG, *Afghanistan's Election Stalemate*, Asia Brief No. 117 (Feb 2011).
- Dan Green, 'Going Tribal' (2009).
- Ali Jalali, 'The Future of Afghanistan' (2006).

Nov 17 – Economic Stabilization and Development

Read: *The Beginner's Guide*, Chapters 7 & 9.

Relevant Readings:

- Jonathan Goodhand, 'From Holy War to Opium War? A Case Study of the Opium Economy in North-eastern Afghanistan', *Disasters*, Vol. XXIV, No. 2 (2000), p. 87-102.
- Andrew Kutchins, 'A Truly Regional Economic Strategy for Afghanistan', *Washington Quarterly*, Vol. XXXIV, No. 2 (Spring 2011), p. 77-91.
- RAND, *Economic Dimensions of Security in Central Asia* (2007).
- Frode Tvinnereim, 'Provincial Reconstruction Teams and Counter-Insurgency Warfare Theory: A Perfect Match?' (2010)
- Shavkat Rakhmatullaev (et. al.), 'Groundwater resources use and management in the Amu Darya River Basin', *Environ Earth Science*, No. 59, (2010) p. 1183–1193.
- Civil Military Fusion Centre, 'The Relationship Between Aid, Insurgency and Security' (2011).
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Nov 24 – Democratization

Discuss Roy, *The New Central Asia*

Read: *The Beginner's Guide*, Chapters 8.

Relevant Readings:

- Afghan Presidential Election: Potential Candidates and Powerbrokers (2009)

Dec 1 – Culture

Discuss Entezar, *Afghanistan 101*

Relevant Readings:

- Frederick Carver, 'Are the Reasons for the Failure of Statebuilding in Afghanistan Specific to the Country or Characteristic of South Asia More Generally?', *Asian Affairs*, Vol. XLII, No. 1 (March 2011), p. 70-82.
- DoD, 'My Cousins Enemy is My Friend' (2009).
- DoD, 'Mutual Perceptions Between ANSF Personnel and US Soldiers' (2011).
- Lawrence Rosen, 'Anthropological Assumptions and the Afghan War', *Anthropological Quarterly*, Vol. LXXXIV, No. 2 (2011), p. 535–558.
- RAND, *Afghanistan's Local War* (2011).
- M.J.C. Sullivan 'The Significance of Culture in Capacity Building Operations' (2011).

Dec 8 – Human Rights and Human Development

Read: Beginner's Guide, Chapter 5.

Relevant Readings:

- Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission, *Strategic Action Plan* (2010).
- Oz Hasan (et. al.), 'The Rise and Fall of American's Freedom Agenda in Afghanistan: Counter-terrorism, Nation-building and Democracy', *The International Journal of Human Rights*, Vol. XV, No. 4 (May 2011), p. 532–551.
- Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General for Children and Armed Conflict, *Mission Report: Afghanistan* (2010).
- RAND, *Women in Nation Building* (2008).
- UN, 'Children and Armed Conflict' (2010).

Jan 12 – Campaign Planning/Operational Design

Readings:

- US Army War College, *Campaign Planning Handbook* (2008).
- Afghan Compact
- Civil Military Campaign Plan (2011).

Jan 19 – Start State

Relevant Readings:

- *The A to Z Guide to Afghan Assistance* (2011)
- ICG, 'Afghanistan: Exit vs. Engagement', Asia Briefing No. 115 (November 2010).
- RAND, *What Are You Prepared to Do? NATO and the Strategic Mismatch Between Ends, Ways, and Means in Afghanistan—and in the Future* (2011).

Jan 26 – Group Work

Feb 2 – Group Work

Feb 9 – Military Line of Operations

Feb 16 – Police Line of Operations

Feb 23 READING WEEK

Mar 1 – Humanitarian Relief Line of Operations

Mar 8 – Governance Line of Operations

Mar 15 – Economic Stabilisation Line of Operations

Mar 22 – Democratization Line of Operations

Mar 29 – Development Line of Operations

Apr 5 – Cultural Line of Operations

Apr 12 -- Human Rights and Human Development Line of Operations. Essays Due.

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.

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PLAGIARISM

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offense (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

The following rules pertain to the acknowledgements necessary in academic papers.

A. In using another writer's words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer.

You are plagiarizing if you use a sequence of words, a sentence or a paragraph taken from other writers without acknowledging them to be theirs. Acknowledgement is indicated either by (1) mentioning the author and work from which the words are borrowed in the text of your paper; or by (2) placing a footnote number at the end of the quotation in your text, and including a correspondingly numbered footnote at the bottom of the page (or in a separate reference section at the end of your essay). This footnote should indicate author, title of the work, place and date of Publication and page number. Method (2) given above is usually preferable for academic essays because it provides the reader with more information about your sources and leaves your text uncluttered with parenthetical and tangential references. In either case words taken from another author must be enclosed in quotation marks or set off from your text by single spacing and indentation in such a way that they cannot be mistaken for your own words. Note that you cannot avoid indicating quotation simply by changing a word or phrase in a sentence or paragraph which is not your own.

B. In adopting other writer's ideas, you must acknowledge that they are theirs.

You are plagiarizing if you adopt, summarize, or paraphrase other writers' trains of argument, ideas or sequences of ideas without acknowledging their authorship according to the method of acknowledgement given in 'A' above. Since the words are your own, they need not be enclosed in quotation marks. Be certain, however, that the words you use are entirely your own; where you must use words or phrases from your source; these should be enclosed in quotation marks, as in 'A' above.

Clearly, it is possible for you to formulate arguments or ideas independently of another writer who has expounded the same ideas, and whom you have not read. Where you got your ideas is the important consideration here. Do not be afraid to present an argument or idea without acknowledgement to another writer, if you have arrived at it entirely independently. Acknowledge it if you have derived it from a source outside your own thinking on the subject.

In short, use of acknowledgements and, when necessary, quotation marks is necessary to distinguish clearly between what is yours and what is not. Since the rules have been explained to you, if you fail to make this distinction, your instructor very likely will do so for you, and they will be forced to regard your omission as intentional literary theft. Plagiarism is a serious offence which may result in a student's receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases, in their suspension from the University.

MEDICAL ACCOMMODATION

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Please go to

https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_accommodations_link_for_OOR.pdf to read about the University's policy on medical accommodation. Please go to <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/medicalform.pdf> to download the necessary form. In the event of illness, you should contact Academic Counselling as soon as possible. The Academic Counsellors will determine, in consultation with the student, whether or not accommodation is warranted. They will subsequently contact the instructors in the relevant courses about the accommodation. Once a decision has been made about accommodation, the student should contact his/her instructors to determine a new due date for term tests, assignments, and exams.

If you have any further questions or concerns please contact, Rebecca Dashford, Undergraduate Program Advisor, Department of History, 519-661-2111 x84962 or rdashfo@uwo.ca